

CIA Put Nuclear Spy Devices in Himalayas

By Thomas O'Toole
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Central Intelligence Agency recruited 14 American mountain-climbers to place nuclear-powered instruments on two peaks of the Himalayas to spy on Chinese atomic tests and missile firings in the 1960s.

The magazine Outside, which is published by Rolling Stone, reported that one of the nuclear power packs was lost on a mountainside in India whose snowpack feeds the headwaters of the Ganges River, which is sacred to the Hindus.

"Until the plutonium [the source of the radioactivity in the power pack] deteriorates, which may take centuries," the magazine said, "the device will remain a radioactive menace that could leak into the Himalayan snow and infiltrate the Indian river system through the headwaters of the Ganges."

Outside reported and The Washington Post confirmed that the first expedition took place in 1965 and ended in the loss of the instrument and that the second foray happened two years later and ended in what one former CIA official termed a "partial success."

"It was an ingenious system and was backed by sound ideas," the former CIA official said yesterday. "But what I have to say is that it paid off a little bit but not spectacularly."

The article in Outside, which was written by Howard Kohn, an associate editor of Rolling Stone, said that the first expedition involved the carrying of a 125-pound instrument to the summit of Nanda Devi, a mountain of 25,645 feet in the Uttar Pradesh region near India's northeastern border with China.

A year before the expedition, China had exploded its first nuclear bomb and was confronting India along its mountain borders. China was also mounting what one CIA official called "hostile acts" in Laos, Vietnam and the Straits of Taiwan.

"We needed to know what the Chinese were testing to figure out their intentions," the former CIA official said. For political and geographic reasons, "the U2 [reconnaissance plane] was of no use to us there and our reconnaissance satellites were not yet up to the task so we tried this scheme."

Outside reported that the first time American mountain climbers tried to carry the instrument to the summit of Nanda Devi, storms turned them back short of the mountain top. The climbers stashed their device and its power pack in a "sheltered cranny" on the southern lee of the mountain.

The same climbers returned to the shelter in the spring of 1966 only to find that the device

and the plutonium power pack had been carried away, apparently by an avalanche.

Some of the same climbers and a few new ones were recruited by the CIA for a third attempt in 1967. This time, an identical device was to be placed at the summit of Nanda Kot, a 22,400-foot mountain adjacent to Nanda Devi.

This time, the attempt succeeded, Outside said. The climbers left the instrument on the north ridge of the 21,000-foot level of the mountain, where it had a line-of-sight view of China's secret nuclear and missile test ranges in Sinkiang Province 500 miles to the north.

"It worked," the article said. "The nuclear battery, still warm to the touch in the frosty air, hummed and vibrated as the antenna scanned the northern horizon. The climbers celebrated briefly, then retraced their path downward."

Outside said that 14 American mountain-climbers were recruited for all three attempts. The magazine reported they were paid \$1,000 a month for work on which most of the climbers spent a year. The article said the CIA had the cooperation of India's Central Bureau of Investigation each time its climbers scaled the Himalayas.

None of the American mountain climbers was named in the article, which said that the 14 included some of the "premier climbers" in America.

See 78-0996

Less secrecy by agency is goal of CIA director

By KEN HOSKINS
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

LEXINGTON, Ky. — The government still is trying to balance the people's right to know what their spy agency is doing against that agency's need for secrecy, the director of the Central Intelligence Agency said yesterday.

And, Stansfield Turner told the Lexington Lions Club, it will be another one or two years "before we can say the proper balance has been found."

"I assure you I am dedicated to keeping our intelligence No. 1 in the world, while doing it in a way that will only strengthen our democratic traditions."

(At a speech later last night at the University of Kentucky, seven or eight Iranian students were arrested, The Associated Press reported. Lexington Metro Police Chief Paul Harrison said the students refused to put down their signs before Turner began speaking. The names of the students, charged with "disrupting a peaceful assembly," were not available.)

Turner, the admiral who took over the CIA in March 1977, told the Lions Club that he plans to continue a more open public policy at a time when he believes Americans are moving from post-Watergate suspicion to a more con-

structive questioning of the intelligence community.

"There is a great need for secrecy. Indeed," he told the predominantly male luncheon crowd, but he added that "the more we can share, the more we can make the American public appreciate what we do for them."

He said the CIA is still reviewing its top secret and confidential files for information that can be declassified and released.

"There is simply too much classified information in our government today," he said, and the overload creates a danger that information that needs to be kept secret will not be treated as such.

Turner said that while individual citizens cannot review what secrets the CIA should keep, other checks have been placed on the agency in the past few years.

He cited the President's Intelligence Oversight Board, the House and Senate committees on intelligence and the president and vice president.

He contended later at a news conference that "it's getting preposterous to think" that a Watergate-type cover-up could be pulled off again because it would take the cooperation of "some 30 members of Congress, the president and the chief of intelligence."

In response to a question, Turner

criticized former CIA agents who have published classified information and applauded Attorney General Griffin Bell for prosecuting one of them.

"We hope this will be an example to others that they cannot break a contract (of secrecy) such as this," he said.

Turner said that agents and former agents with complaints about the CIA should take them to the presidential and congressional oversight panels.

He said public disclosures of CIA operations make overseas activity more difficult because the leaks make foreign operatives reluctant to take part.

"If it continues too long," he said, "it could have a serious effect on our ability to do the job the people want."

Turner refused to comment on a published report that the CIA lost a nuclear-powered generator 13 years ago in the Himalayas while trying to set up a tracking station.

The story, published in the magazine *Outside*, said the generator could leak radiation into India's Ganges River.

Turner denied having any information on another unconfirmed report that Soviet missiles have been reintroduced into Cuba.

In response to a question from a reporter for a Lexington television station Turner also denied the CIA is involved in the search for former Italian Premier Aldo Moro.



Stansfield Turner

"I am dedicated to keeping our intelligence No. 1 in the world"

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ON PAGE B-1

LEXINGTON HERALD (KY.)
13 April 1978

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Turner Tells UK Crowd

CIA Seeking Balance Of Security, Principles

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By Steven Anderson
and Gail Smith
Of The Herald Staff

The director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Stansfield Turner, said here Wednesday that the U.S. is developing a new "American model of intelligence" that will "strike a balance" between security needs and democratic principles.

Turner, in a speech at the University of Kentucky Student Center, indirectly acknowledged that there have been abuses of the intelligence network, and noted that stricter controls on CIA activities abroad are now in force.



Turner

"Out of the crucible of the last three years of public criticism we have forged a new process of oversight," Turner said in an address repeatedly interrupted by demonstrators who carried banners and shouted slogans denouncing the Shah of Iran — alleged to be a "CIA puppet."

The demonstration, sponsored by the Iranian Students Association, delayed Turner's speech for about 40 minutes, and forced the silver-haired director to pause several times while helmeted UK police ejected demonstrators from the Grand Ballroom of the center.

UK Police Chief Paul Harrison said 11 adults and one juvenile were arrested and charged with one count each of disrupting a public assembly.

Turner, 53, did not respond directly to the demonstrators' jibes and chants of "Down with the Shah!". He did, however, reject their contention that the CIA is involved in Iranian internal affairs by saying that the agency's role is only to "report on what's happening, and what's going to happen" in other countries.

"We do retain a capacity for political action, but we exercise it very little today, and only if directed to do so," he said. Any such political action requires the President's signature and reports to eight congressional committees, said Turner. He added: "Those are very tight restraints, I can assure you."

In describing a "dramatic transformation" of the U.S. intelligence system, Turner observed that:

✓ The focus of intelligence activities has shifted from military affairs, principally concerning the Soviet Union, to analyses of economic matters, the world energy situation, and to information about terrorists and drug traffic.

✓ New technology has altered the methods by which intelligence is collected, and has produced "prodigious quantities of information" requiring careful analysis.

✓ The old tradition of "maximum secrecy and minimum disclosure" has given way to an acceptance of "the public's right to know ... as much as we can reasonably let them know."

✓ The creation of an intelligence oversight board, and the increased watchfulness of Senate and House intelligence committees, means that public officials are "constantly scrutinizing us, quizzing us, and demanding answers."

This "surrogate public oversight" may produce leaks of secret information and could result in timidity on the part of the U.S. intelligence operatives, Turner acknowledged. But, he said, "we are striking a balance between the amount of leaks and timidity" and the need for methods that "support and defend the institutions and ideals of our country."

In his address, heard by about 2,000 persons, Turner observed that long-standing ties between the intelligence and academic communities had been "substantially frayed in recent years by public criticism of intelligence activities," and said he hoped those relations would be restored.

He urged students to "consider joining an intelligence organization," an occupation that would be "as challenging an academic and professional exercise as you'll find" — but this suggestion was greeted with a chorus of boos and laughter from a minority in the audience.

Turner, a Navy admiral and Rhodes scholar who was appointed by President Carter to head the CIA a year ago, appeared as the second in the UK Patterson School of diplomacy's series of John Sherman Cooper lectures.

Prior to his address, UK Dean of Students Joseph T. Burch advised demonstrators at the rear of the hall that they would not be allowed to hoist protest signs during the speech, or to interrupt the speaker.

"We're not going to let the speaker be disrupted," said Burch. He said the university "believes very deeply in free speech, and that includes Admiral Turner's right to free speech."

Earlier, about 50 demonstrators marched in a circle outside the Student Center, carrying signs and chanting the warning that Iran will be "the next Vietnam."

A spokesman for the group, Houshang Tareghol, explained the allusion to Vietnam by saying the U.S. has "more than 35,000 military advisers" in Iran, and plans to increase that number to "100,000 by the end of 1980."

Tareghol added that "hundreds" of members of the Iranian secret police, the Savak, are being trained in the U.S. by the CIA — a contention he supported by citing a May 1976 report by the International Commission of Jurists.

Tareghol said he is an engineering junior at UK.

The 11 adults and one juvenile — a 17-year-old boy — were booked at the Fayette County Detention Center.

Bond was set at \$2,000 and several of those arrested were released on their own recognizance, said Harrison said.

Arraignments will be at 1 p.m. today in Fayette District Court, he added.

The adults arrested were:

Morteza Khajehzadeh, 23, a student at the University of Louisville; Jean L. Donohue, 25, 456 Columbia Avenue; John Calvert Green, 21, Lexington; George A. Polratz, 32, 334 Rose Street; Khosko Rozheh, 21, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Nasser Karimi, 23, Commonwealth Village, University of Kentucky; Clay Mahin, 22, 411 Linden Walk; Karim Abudulah, 21, 404 Linden Walk; Nader Eshgni, 19, Knoxville; Vahi Aforgh, 22, UK campus; and Yahya Hedayati-Omani, 21, 1435 South Limestone Street.

CIA reportedly lost nuclear generator in India

From Inquirer Wire Services

NEW YORK—An article in a new magazine published by Rolling Stone alleges that a nuclear-powered generator was lost in 1965 on a Himalayan mountainside by a CIA expedition trying to set up a tracking station to spy on China's atomic weapons development in Sinkiang province across the Indian border.

The device could contaminate runoff water that flows into India's Ganges River, the article said.

According to the story appearing in Outside, the CIA group was trying to scale a 25,645-foot mountain called Nanda Devi and code-named Blue Mountain. It says the group was forced by bad weather to give up the attempt about 2,000 feet below the summit.

The climbers, hoping to return when the weather improved, stored the nuclear SNAP generator, which was to power the tracking station, among some rocks and it was buried in an avalanche, the article, in the May issue of the magazine, says.

The story, by Howard Kohn, says the CIA attempted in 1966 to retrieve the generator, but was unsuccessful. It says the fuel rods in the generator contained plutonium-238 "which remains dangerously radioactive for 300 to 500 years and even if the SNAP generator had survived the avalanche intact, its outer shell would eventually corrode and release its poisonous core."

The story says that the spring thaw on the southern slope of the moun-

tain, where the generator was buried, is a major source of water for the Ganges River and says that if the radioactive material reached the Ganges "it could cause cancer in anyone who drank even microscopic amounts or ate contaminated fish."

According to the article, another CIA expedition to a neighboring mountain in 1967 was more successful and a nuclear-powered tracking station was established.

The story says the CIA's Indian counterpart, the Central Bureau of Investigation, was aware of the expedition but was asked not to inform the government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

It says President Lyndon B. Johnson was given a "general outline" of the expedition, but says the White House was not told of the CIA's decision to abandon the search for the lost generator.

The CIA refused yesterday to comment on the story.

Reps. Richard Ottinger (D., N. Y.) and John Dingell (D., Mich.) yesterday asked President Carter in a letter to "investigate this matter and inform us fully of your findings. If the article is in fact accurate, we strongly urge that this nation take whatever steps may be necessary to resolve this serious and embarrassing situation."

In a separate letter to India's ambassador in Washington, the two representatives appealed for help in an attempt to determine whether the report is true.

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SAN DIEGO TRIBUNE
13 April 1978

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Debate on CIA far from hush-hush

By BOB DORN

"Sir, you're a liar," a bearded, T-shirted former Marine and Vietnam vet told William Colby, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Ramsey Clark, former U.S. attorney general looked on in silence from his seat across from Colby in Montezuma Hall at San Diego State University, where the two survivors of the '60s had come together last night for a debate and question session.

Colby had just finished his explanation of a U.S. exercise in Vietnam known as the Phoenix program, set up while he was chief of the Far East division of the CIA from 1962 to 1967.

The project was, he said, an attempt to win over the peasantry of that embattled nation and was not an assassination program, as some had alleged.

He had also just finished saying that the CIA — before he took over as chief — had plotted with the Mafia to assassinate Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

The ex-Marine was one of the first in the audience to reach a microphone during the questioning period.

"You say the CIA never assassinated anyone during the Phoenix program," he stormed. "Well, I was there, and I knew the people who did it. We killed anyone in black pajamas and a straw hat. And you ran the Phoenix program."

"And if the Mafia was contracted to kill Fidel Castro, why didn't you turn around and tell the FBI and Ramsey Clark who you were talking to so they could go out and arrest those scum?"

Colby, impeccable and professorial in a gray suit, regained the mike and momentary control. He told the veteran, "There are very few countries in the world where you could say something like that to a former director of intelligence."

"This is the only country in the world where we would have to say something like that to a former director of intelligence," came the retort from the floor.

Boos were aimed at the ex-Marine.

However, the evening's occasional boos were equally distributed among Colby, his very few hecklers and the long line of questioners whose queries rambled into indictments of multinational corporations, their influence on foreign affairs and CIA electioneering overseas.

The formal debate between Clark and Colby — on "Secrecy in an Open Government" — produced little that was not revealed in 1975 House and Senate subcommittee hearings on the activities of the CIA.

Colby was director of the CIA from 1973 to early 1976, when his 30-year espionage and counterintelligence career ended.

Following the open session last night he said he was fired by President Ford because of the revelations that came out of the hearings. "I think I talked too much during those hearings," he said.

His book "Honorable Men" is due for publication next month and in it Colby writes that during the hearings Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, president of the Senate, "drew me into his office in the Executive Office Building and said in his most charming manner, 'Bill, do you really have to present all this material to us?'"

Last night Colby never strayed from the contention that an intelligence agency must operate in secret and that present oversight activities of Congress are adequate.

Though he noted that the CIA was never successful in its attempt with the Mafia to assassinate Castro and said that the agency cut off an early plot to kill Congolese leader Patrice Lumumba, Colby conceded that he knew of those plots at the time.

"You heard the words, 'How do we get rid of Castro?'; with all the ambiguity of meaning of those words, spoken in the highest levels of government outside the CIA," he said.

Asked by a student later why he did not report the plotters, Colby said it was because those who spoke the words were his superiors.

For his part, Clark argued that secrecy in government corrupts democratic principles. "What's the meaning of a vote informed by ignorance?" he asked.

He said some of the secrecy has been pointless.

"Shouldn't the people of the United States have known their soldiers were invading Cambodia?" he asked. "Do you think the Cambodians didn't know, or for that matter the Soviet Union and China? Who was the secret kept from?"

He said bending the principle of open government is self-defeating. "Do we really think a moderately Machiavellian society can compete with an absolutely Machiavellian one?" he asked. "It can only lose, first because we lose the force of our principles when we compromise them and second we'll lose because we don't go all the way."

Clark said the CIA's Cold War ideology has led it to support President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines and the Shah of Iran. "We've been worse than the police of the world; we've been the corrupter of it," he said. "What we've come to do is support tyranny around the world."

"We have committed outrages, through secrecy, and just because we've done it in a gentlemanly manner doesn't justify it."

Clark argued for the creation of a foreign intelligence review board that would ensure "wide-open, robust and uninhibited" criticism of the agency.

Colby said that the agency should not operate under presidential orders exclusively and that a statutory definition of its activities is needed. But he said present Senate and

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13 April 1978

Arrests made as marchers disrupt CIA chief's speech

By JEANNE WEHNES
Copy Editor

Admiral Stansfield Turner's speech and comments at UK last night were planned to be about new directions for the CIA. But the defiant presence of Iranian demonstrators, in the audience and outside the Student Center, focused the program on CIA activities in that country.

Eleven protestors and one juvenile were arrested last night, said Assistant Dean of Students T. Lynn Williamson. He said none of those arrested could immediately be identified as UK students. However, Williamson said two claimed they were from the University of Tennessee, and that others may also be from UT or the University of Louisville.

"I have reason to believe some (of those arrested) were using fictitious names when they were booked," said Williamson.

They were arrested by UK police and charged with "disrupting a public assembly," said a spokeswoman at the Lexington Detention Center. Their arraignment will be today at 1 p.m. in U.S. District Court.

Turner, director of U.S. Central Intelligence and director of the CIA, was speaking for the Patterson School of Diplomacy's lecture series named for former Kentucky Senator John Sherman Cooper.

About 50 protestors, many of them Iranians, picketed Turner's speech at the Student Center Ballroom. The group paraded in a circle before the main entrance to the Student Center, carrying signs and chanting slogans denouncing the CIA and Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, Iran's

ruler. More protestors were stationed on sidewalks passing out leaflets decrying alleged CIA involvement in Iranian politics.

Inside, more protestors challenged Turner on the CIA's role in Iran. Spread throughout the audience of about 400 people, some demonstrators unfurled banners and shouted protests. With each outburst, police chased them from the room and then made arrests.

One protester, holding up a sign, was asked by police to put the sign down. "Show me where in the Constitution it says I can't (hold up a sign)" He was escorted out of the Ballroom by security personnel.

"They were disrupting a program, (which is) a violation of the Student Code," said Dean of Students Joe Burch at the program. Burch and several other top UK officials were present, as well as a few dozen UK

police. A detachment of about 20 helmeted officers were stationed out of sight in front of Buell Armory in case of violence.

"Support your CIA, support American fascism" and "Down with the Shah, down with the CIA" posters lined the rear wall of the Ballroom. Arriving 45 minutes after the publicized starting time, Turner was greet with boos and hisses from the back of the SC Ballroom and a standing ovation in the front.

Secret Service personnel and UK police were stationed at each of the Ballroom doors. Turner's arrival at the podium brought a standing ovation from the front of the room in response to the protestors' catcalls, boos and hisses. Frequent yells from the back of the room, complemented by applause from the front, interrupted his 20-minute presentation.

In his speech titled "New Directions in the U.S. Intelligence System," Turner outlined trends that he said dominate the practices of the CIA. He said the reorganization of intelligence gathering operations in the U.S. has stressed an increased importance of technical systems and analysis rather than the human "undercover agent."

The change in world alliances has changed the type of information gathered, he said, and more political and economic data is collected. However, Turner said the importance of collecting military information must not be underestimated.

"Understanding Soviet Union military operations is still — and must be — our number one duty," Turner said.

Turner said today's American society demands a change in the maximum secrecy — minimum disclosure practices of the past, Turner said. The CIA and other intelligence gathering bodies are publishing more and on more topics than in the past.

Even though less data is classified, "we will protect the necessary secrets better," Turner said. He said

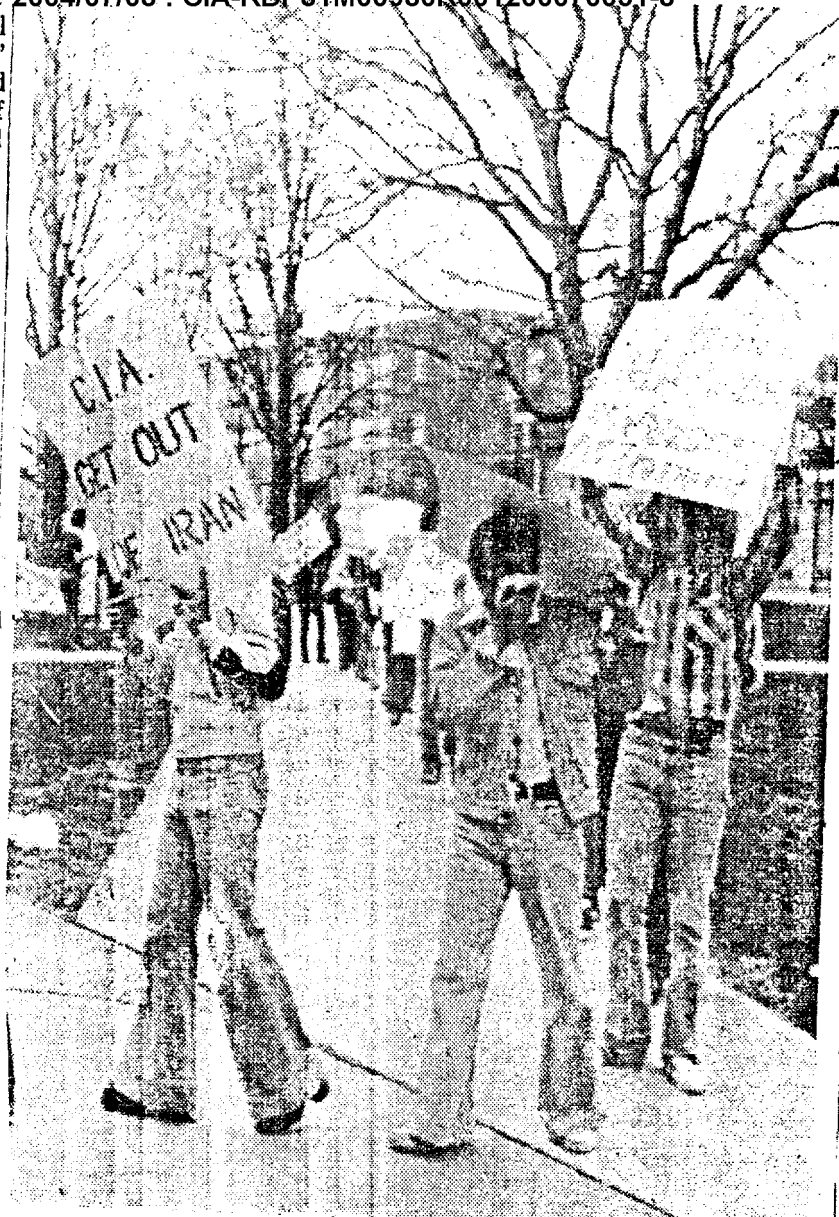
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publishing classified material is an "intolerable position." The question period brought another rash of shouted slogans and protesters marching through the aisles. Demonstrators adamantly tried to ask questions, but were not recognized until other questions from the floor were answered. Questions were asked while demonstrators yelled, demanding acknowledgment. Turner, when asked, said there was no political involvement by the CIA in Iran and Italy. He also said any question about human rights must be directed to the State Department.



Above, CIA Director Stansfield Turner spoke last night at UK to an audience that included several sign carrying protestors (below).



Tom Moran

Above, Iranian students and their supporters demonstrate outside the Student Center prior to CIA Director Stansfield Turner's speech last night. At left, officers of the UK Police stand guard outside the Student Center during the speech.

THE WASHINGTON POST
13 April 1978

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Cluster Bomb Curb Sought In Mideast

By Don Oberdorfer
Washington Post Staff Writer

The United States has asked Israel for new and tighter restrictions on the use of U.S.-supplied cluster bombs following their employment against civilian targets in southern Lebanon, administration officials said yesterday.

The administration's decision is designed to influence the potential uses of some 22,000 of the devastating projectiles that have been supplied to Israel since the early 1970s, the sources said.

Among the restrictions being sought is assurance that Israeli field commanders will not employ these weapons without a decision by politically responsible superiors. This is to prevent a recurrence of the Lebanese case, in which Israeli officials are reported to have said that cluster bombs were used in some cases without clearance by top officials.

Cluster bomb units, or CBUs, were developed and used by the United States in Indochina. One CBU can release a hail of grenade-sized weapons, each containing hundreds of steel shards. Though supposedly used for suppression of antiaircraft defenses over large areas, the CBUs developed a murderous reputation as antipersonnel weapons.

Rep. Paul N. McCloskey Jr. (R-Calif.), who has objected to Israeli use of cluster bombs in Lebanon, said the weapon was supplied to Israel between 1970 and 1975, subject to an agreement that it would be used "only for defensive purposes." The Washington Post reported early last year that Israel had promised the United States in December 1976 that all varieties of CBUs would be used only against military, fortified targets and only if Israel were attacked by more than one country.

An Israeli military spokesman recently said that CBUs had been used against "artillery units and field positions" in southern Lebanon. On-the-spot dispatches by U.S. correspondents and U.S. military intelligence reports, however, have said that cluster bombs rained down on refugee camps, farms and villages at the time of the Israeli invasion last month.

A State Department spokesman said last weekend that Israel's use of

CBUs in southern Lebanon was in violation of the restrictions that had been agreed to. "We are having discussions with the Israeli government with a view to assuring that those restrictions will be observed in the future," the spokesman said.

Israeli officials here said assurances had been given to the United States in conversations last week in Israel. U.S. officials said a new round of discussions has started since then, with the American side asking for "ironclad" restrictions and procedures to make sure they are followed in practice.

In a "deal colleague" letter to all House members dated Monday, McCloskey proposed an amendment to the foreign assistance bill calling for termination of all arms deliveries to Israel in the event of any future use of CBUs against civilian targets. McCloskey also sent letters to President Carter and Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz announcing the same proposal.

"I appreciate that acts of terror justify measured military response," said McCloskey in his letter to Dinitz, in a reference to the Palestinian commando raid which led to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last month. "I do not, however, believe that the use of CBUs against civilian areas can be justified under any circumstances. It seems to me Israel practically ensures a generation of terrorism by her opponents with this sort of governmental decision," McCloskey said.

McCloskey, who said he has supported military and economic assistance to Israel on every vote in recent years, also questioned press reports in January that Israel supplied CBUs to Ethiopia, which in turn used them against insurgents in Eritrea. He said he has not received a reply from the executive branch to his inquiries about these reports.

McCluskey
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